

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-30 (canceled)

31. (previously presented) An isolated polynucleotide comprising:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide having cysteine protease activity, wherein the polypeptide has an amino acid sequence of at least 80% sequence identity, based on the Clustal V method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:24, or
- (b) a complement of the nucleotide sequence, wherein the complement and the nucleotide sequence consist of the same number of nucleotides and are 100% complementary.

32. (previously presented) The polynucleotide of Claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide has at least 85% sequence identity, based on the Clustal V method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:24.

33. (previously presented) The polynucleotide of Claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide has at least 90% sequence identity, based on the Clustal V method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:24.

34. (previously presented) The polynucleotide of Claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide has at least 95% sequence identity, based on the Clustal V method of alignment, when compared to SEQ ID NO:24.

35. (previously presented) The polynucleotide of Claim 31, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:24.

36. (previously presented) The polynucleotide of Claim 31 wherein the nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:23.

37. (previously presented) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 31.

38. (previously presented) A chimeric gene comprising the polynucleotide of Claim 31 operably linked to at least one regulatory sequence.

39. (previously presented) A method for transforming a cell, comprising transforming a cell with the polynucleotide of Claim 31.

40. (previously presented) A cell comprising the chimeric gene of Claim 38.

41. (previously presented) A method for producing a plant comprising transforming a plant cell with the polynucleotide of Claim 31 and regenerating a plant from the transformed plant cell.

42. (previously presented) A plant comprising the chimeric gene of Claim 38.

43. (previously presented) A seed comprising the chimeric gene of Claim 38.